

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2015

Contact:

Lisa Isaacs, Administrator  
Woodstove Replacement Program  
760.914.0388  
[Ljm.isaacs@gmail.com](mailto:Ljm.isaacs@gmail.com)

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## COUNTY-SUPPORTED WOODSTOVE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM REMAINS OPEN WITH ADDITIONAL VENDOR

Alpine County, CA – All Alpine County property owners who want to replace an old woodstove or wood fireplace with significant cost savings are encouraged to immediately take advantage of Alpine County's Woodstove Replacement Program. Funding is limited and available on a *'first-come, first-served'* basis through participating retailers only. To be eligible for replacement with a more efficient and cleaner heating system (wood, pellet or gas), the existing wood-burning system must be a residential or commercial building's main heat source and it must be located in Alpine County.

Pre-1990 wood-burning stoves and fireplaces qualify for \$1,500 toward the cost of a new EPA-compliant wood-burning stove or fireplace. Alternatively, \$2,000 is available for a new pellet or gas heating system. For wood-burning stoves or fireplaces manufactured and installed *after* 1990, \$2,000 will be paid toward a new and much cleaner-burning pellet or gas heating system.

Subsidized amounts are paid by Alpine County to participating retailers upon install completion, not to individuals or property owners. Shared costs will be required, with amounts dependent on product selections and specific job needs. All replaced stoves must also be relinquished, with new installations permitted by the Alpine County Building Department, including smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors.

Interested persons should immediately contact one of the County's two participating retailers for more information, including product selections:

- *Sierra Hearth & Home* on Highway 49 in Jackson. Call Shirley Hampton at (209) 223-4007
- *South Y Fireplace* at the Y in South Lake Tahoe. Call Laray Taylor at (530) 541-6833

Program funding was made available through a recent agreement between the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, including Alpine County. With several hundred thousand dollars between them, Air District board members from the counties of Alpine and Mono and the Town of Mammoth Lakes chose to spend these allotted 'Environmental Public Benefit Funds' to directly benefit everyone by providing funding assistance to update heating systems and significantly reduce wood smoke.

*Sierra Hearth & Home* and *South Y Fireplace* are the only participating retailers providing the program's necessary services and customer savings. All other qualified retailers in the region opted out of participating, citing remote location challenges and "enough existing business."

For more information, contact Alpine County's Woodstove Replacement Program Administrator at (760) 914-0388.

# # #

OCTOBER 2015

- ⇒ Are you burning **WOOD** to heat a building  
in Alpine County?
- ⇒ Would you like to upgrade to a more efficient,  
much cleaner heating system??

\$\$\$ FUNDING NOW AVAILABLE \$\$\$  
from Alpine County's  
*Woodstove Replacement Program!*

You may qualify for **\$1,500** toward a new, EPA-compliant  
Phase II wood-burning stove, insert or fireplace, or...  
**\$2,000** toward a new pellet stove, insert or gas heating system!!!

\*\*\* *Funding limited to 'first come, first served' basis* \*\*

contact participating retailer **NOW** for more information and program inclusion\*

**Sierra Hearth & Home (209) 223-4007**  
**South Y Fireplace (530) 541-6833**

- \*All installs and equipment provided through above retailers only.
- \*Shared costs will be required.
- \*Old systems must be given to installer,
- \*and all installs must be permitted by Alpine County Building Dept.,  
including current smoke and CO monitors.

*funding for Alpine County's Woodstove Replacement Program is provided through*  
**Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District**  
*and Alpine County Board of Supervisors*



## Alpine County Woodstove Replacement Program

# Program Participants' FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**All heating systems for replacement under this program must be located in Alpine County.**

### General Information Questions:

***Q. Where did the funding for this program come from?***

A. Following an agreement in early 2014 between the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Air District Board-member agencies were provided with settlement funds allocated on a per capita basis to pay for local air pollution prevention programs. Officials from the Alpine County chose to spend their funds on reducing wood smoke emissions by encouraging the replacement of wood-burning systems throughout Alpine County.

***Q. I live on Forest Service land in Alpine County. Can I participate in this program?***

A. Yes, but you must provide the retailer with an official authorization letter from the Forest Service.

***Q. I rely on an old, non-compliant woodstove or open fireplace to heat my home. Do I qualify for funding to upgrade it?***

A. Yes. \$1,500 may be available toward a new EPA Phase II wood-burning stove or fireplace, or \$2,000 toward a new pellet stove or gas system.

***Q. Can I replace/upgrade my old pellet stove or gas system through this program?***

A. No. Old pellet stoves and gas heating systems do not qualify for replacement under this program.

***Q. My property currently has an EPA-certified wood-burning system (newer than 1990). Do I qualify for funding to upgrade it?***

A. Yes, conditionally. EPA-certified (Phase II) wood-burning systems (free standing stoves, inserts or fireplaces) may qualify for \$2,000 toward replacement with a pellet or gas heating system only because certified pellet and gas heating systems emit significantly fewer emissions even than new EPA-certified wood-burning systems.

***Q. I recently upgraded my old stove to an EPA-certified heater before this program was offered. Do I qualify for any rebate toward the cost of my new system?***

A. No. Program funding can only be paid for new installations started and completed during the program's contract period. Retroactive funding is not available.

***Q. I have more than one wood-burning heater in my home. Can I replace more than one?***

A. No. Whichever wood-burning heater that you use as your primary heating source is the one that qualifies for replacement under this program.

**Q. I'm building a new home. Can I use this program to get a new stove for my new home?**

A. No. New homes do not qualify for funding. This program is intended to replace existing, old woodstoves and open fireplaces with cleaner burning equipment.

**Q. Do I qualify for the program if the retailer sells and installs used, EPA Phase II equipment?**

A. No. Program funds are for new equipment only.

**Q. Can property owners use independent contractors to replace their woodstoves or do the work themselves and receive the payment directly?**

A. No. All interested property owners must purchase new heating systems from local participating retailer/installers, who must also provide all installation services. Payments will be provided to contracted retailers only. Property owners must work directly with retailers.

**Q. Can I keep my old woodstove after it's replaced?**

A. No. All replaced stoves must be given to the retailer despite the stove's age, and open fireplaces that are replaced with free-standing stoves must be rendered inoperable.

**Q. Can I sign up for the program now but wait until later to have the installation completed?**

A. No. New stoves are provided on a first-come, first-served basis and funding will only be provided to retailers when installation is complete and permit is finalized. Once the funding is used up, the program will end. No funds will be held over.

**Q. Do new heating systems need to be permitted?**

A. Yes. Finalized permits from Alpine County's Building Department are required for all installs before payment will be provided to the retailer. On-site inspections are required. If the property is located on tribal lands, an official, authorizing document from a tribal authority must be provided in lieu of a permit.

**Q. Do smoke and carbon monoxide detectors need to be installed and working before permit can be finalized?**

A. Yes. This is a safety requirement for all installs.

**Q. How do I sign up for this program?**

A. You should IMMEDIATELY call your choice of the following participating stove retailers:

- **Sierra Hearth & Home** on Highway 49 in Jackson. Call Shirley Hampton at (209) 223-4007
- **South Y Fireplace** at the Y in South Lake Tahoe. Call Laray Taylor at (530) 541-6833

For more information, contact:

Lisa Isaacs, Administrator

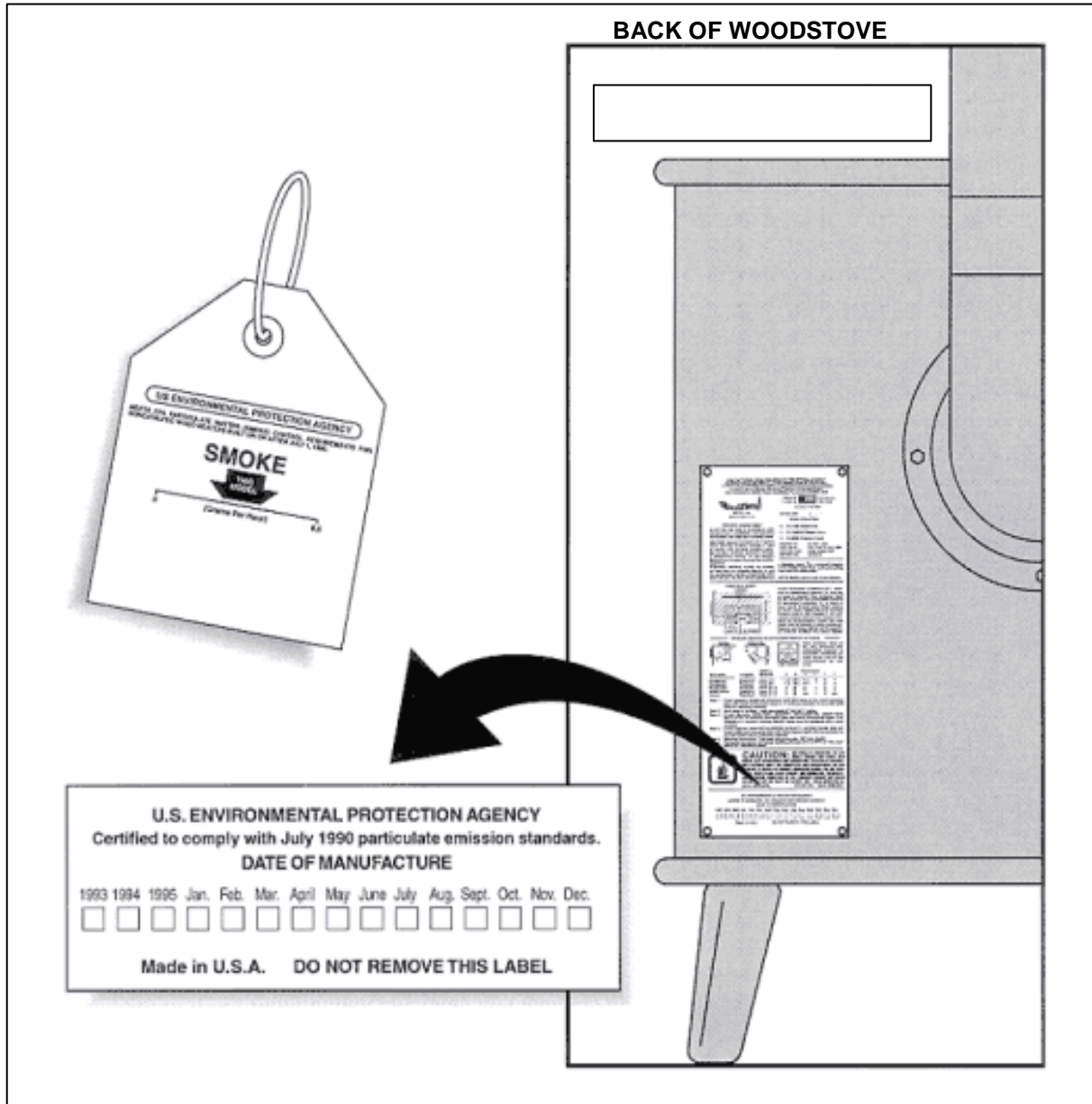
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**ALPINE COUNTY  
WOODSTOVE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

**HOW TO TELL IF YOU HAVE AN EPA CERTIFIED WOODSTOVE:** All woodstoves manufactured in the United States after July 1, 1988 are certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to be clean-burning. A label on the back of these woodstoves bears the name of the EPA with installation date information. (See illustration.)



If your stove is labeled and certified as EPA compliant, you may qualify for replacement with pellet stove or gas heating system only.